

Claim Rejections - 35 USC §103

In the Final Rejection, the Examiner has the following rejections under 35 U.S.C. §103:

1. Claims 1-3, 6-7 and 22-28 are rejected as being unpatentable over Kimura et al. (U.S. 2002/0075422) in view of Kawase (GB 2,360,489) and Morii (JP 2001/276726).
2. Claims 1-3, 6-7 and 22-28 are rejected as being unpatentable over Miyazawa (U.S. 2003/0166311) in view of Sekiya (JP 2003/264072).
3. Claims 10-11 and 22-28 are rejected as being unpatentable over Kimura in view of Kawase and Morii and further in view of Miyashita et al. (U.S. 2002/0155215).
4. Claims 10-11 and 22-28 are rejected as being unpatentable over Miyazawa in view of Sekiya and further in view of Miyahashi.
5. Claims 16-17 and 22-28 are rejected as being unpatentable over Kimura in view of Kawase and Morii and further in view of Yamazaki (U.S. 2002/0164416).
6. Claims 16-17 and 22-28 are rejected as being unpatentable over Miyazawa in view of Sekiya and further in view of Yamazaki.
7. Claims 14-15 are rejected as being unpatentable over Kimura in view of Kawase, Morii and Miyashita and further in view of Konuma et al. (U.S. 2002/0030443).
8. Claims 14-15 are rejected as being unpatentable over Miyazawa in view of Sekiya and Miyashita and further in view of Konuma.
9. Claims 20-21 are rejected as being unpatentable over Kimura in view of Kawase, Morii and Yamazaki and further in view of Konuma.
10. Claims 20-21 are rejected as being unpatentable over Miyazawa in view of Sekiya and Yamazaki and further in view of Konuma.

Each of these rejections is respectfully traversed for at least the reasons explained below.

Rejections 1, 3, 5, 7 and 9

More specifically, with regard to rejections 1, 3, 5, 7 and 9 listed above, Applicants respectfully submit that the cited references, even if properly combined (which Applicants do not admit is proper), do not disclose or suggest all the claimed elements of the rejected claims. Further,